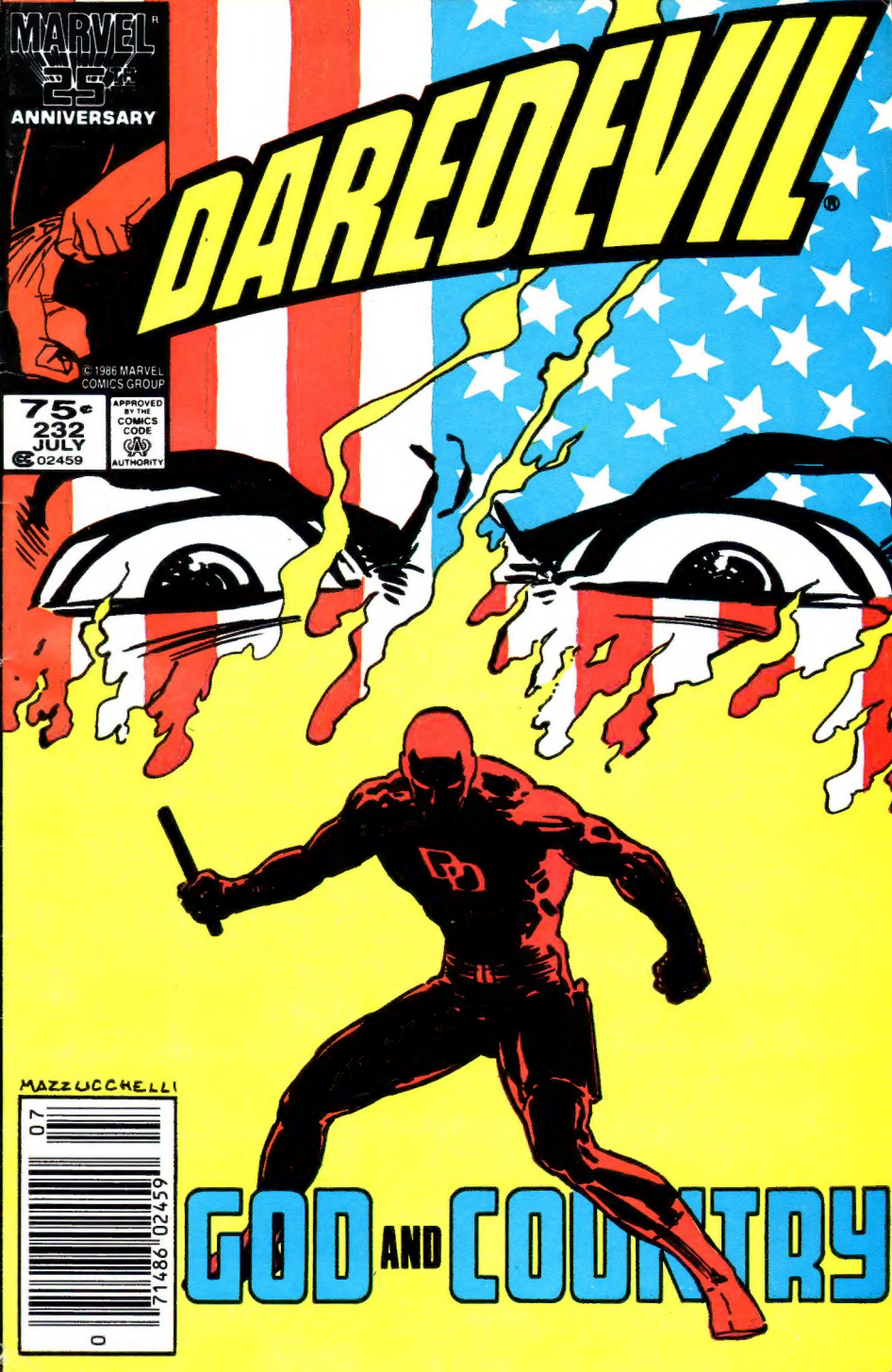
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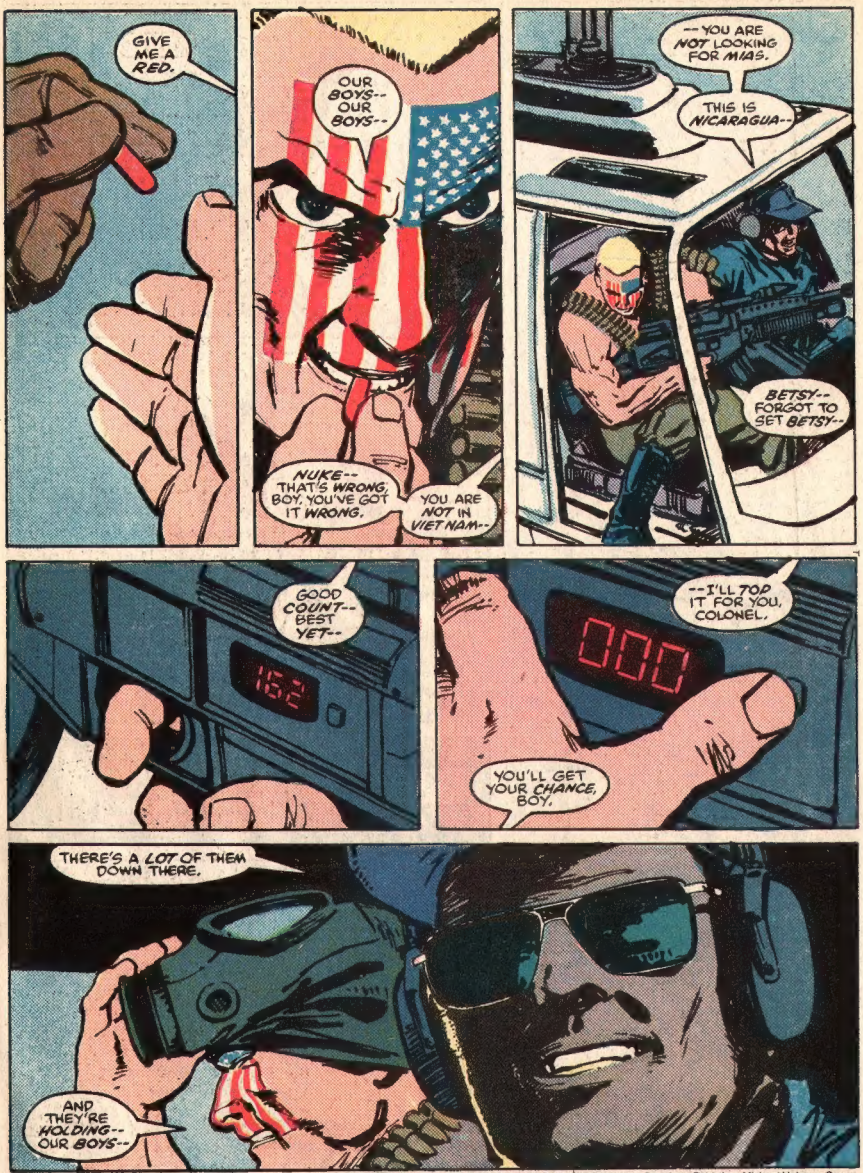

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BETSY HUMS AS THE RED STARTS COMING IN AROUND THE EDGES AND THE COLONEL'S VOICE STOPS SLOWING THINGS DOWN.
--OUR BOYS--
BETSY, SHE KNOWS WHAT TO DO. THE PROGRAM'S ALL SET.
STAGE ONE.
NAPALM.
SHE KNOWS WHAT TO DO.
SHE KEEPS THE COUNT.
005
RED'S KICKING IN BUT GOOD NOW-- ADRENALIN RUSH LIKE A ROCKET BLAST--
RAKABRAK

032
BUDDA BUDDA
045
OUR BOYS--
BRAK!
KKK
088

GIVE ME A WHITE.
WHERE NEXT?
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE THIS, BOY.
YOU'RE HOPPING A CIVILIAN PLANE, GOING STATESIDE. NEW YORK.
ORDER CAME DOWN WHILE YOU WERE MOPPING UP. STRAIGHT FROM THE GENERAL.
GENERAL SEEMS TO HAVE GOTTEN HIMSELF SOME NEW FRIENDS.
NEW YORK-- AMERICA...
AMERICA.
...SO GLAD YOU COULD TAKE MY CALL, MR. FISK... AH... JUST THOUGHT YOU'D BE GLAD TO KNOW...
...AH... NUKE--I MEAN AGENT SIMPSON... WELL, HE'S EN ROUTE, MR. FISK, COMING YOUR WAY, JUST LIKE YOU...LIKE YOU WANTED...
...I HAVE... AH... DELIVERED THE GOODS, MR. FISK... AND... AND, WELL...
...WELL, I'M WAITING FOR THE GOODS YOU PROMISED ME...

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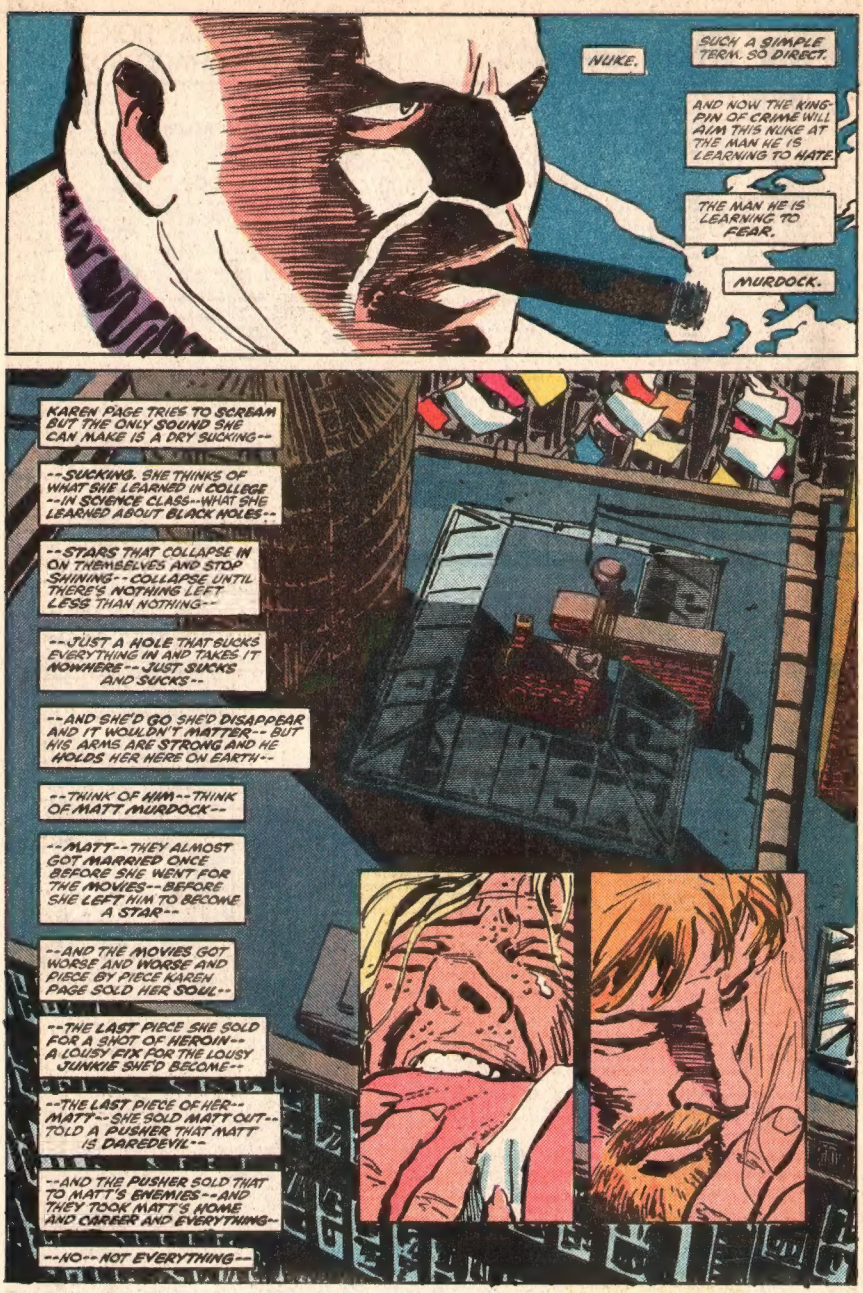
NUKE.
SUCH A SIMPLE TERM. SO DIRECT.
AND NOW THE KINGPIN OF CRIME WILL AIM THIS NUKE AT THE MAN HE IS LEARNING TO HATE.
THE MAN HE IS LEARNING TO FEAR.
MURDOCK.
KAREN PAGE TRIES TO SCREAM BUT THE ONLY SOUND SHE CAN MAKE IS A DRY SUCKING--
--SUCKING. SHE THINKS OF WHAT SHE LEARNED IN COLLEGE --IN SCIENCE CLASS--WHAT SHE LEARNED ABOUT BLACK HOLES--
--STARS THAT COLLAPSE IN ON THEMSELVES AND STOP SHINING--COLLAPSE UNTIL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT LESS THAN NOTHING--
--JUST A HOLE THAT SUCKS EVERYTHING IN AND TAKES IT NOWHERE--JUST SUCKS AND SUCKS--
--AND SHE'D GO SHE'D DISAPPEAR AND IT WOULDN'T MATTER--BUT HIS ARMS ARE STRONG AND HE HOLDS HER HERE ON EARTH--
--THINK OF HIM--THINK OF MATT MURDOCK--
--MATT--THEY ALMOST GOT MARRIED ONCE BEFORE SHE WENT FOR THE MOVIES--BEFORE SHE LEFT HIM TO BECOME A STAR--
--AND THE MOVIES GOT WORSE AND WORSE AND PIECE BY PIECE KAREN PAGE SOLD HER SOUL--
--THE LAST PIECE SHE SOLD FOR A SHOT OF HEROIN--A LOUSY FIX FOR THE LOUSY JUNKIE SHE'D BECOME--
--THE LAST PIECE OF HER--MATT--SHE SOLD MATT OUT--TOLD A PUSHER THAT MATT IS DAREDEVIL--
--AND THE PUSHER SOLD THAT TO MATT'S ENEMIES--AND THEY TOOK MATT'S HOME AND CAREER AND EVERYTHING--
--NO--NOT EVERYTHING--

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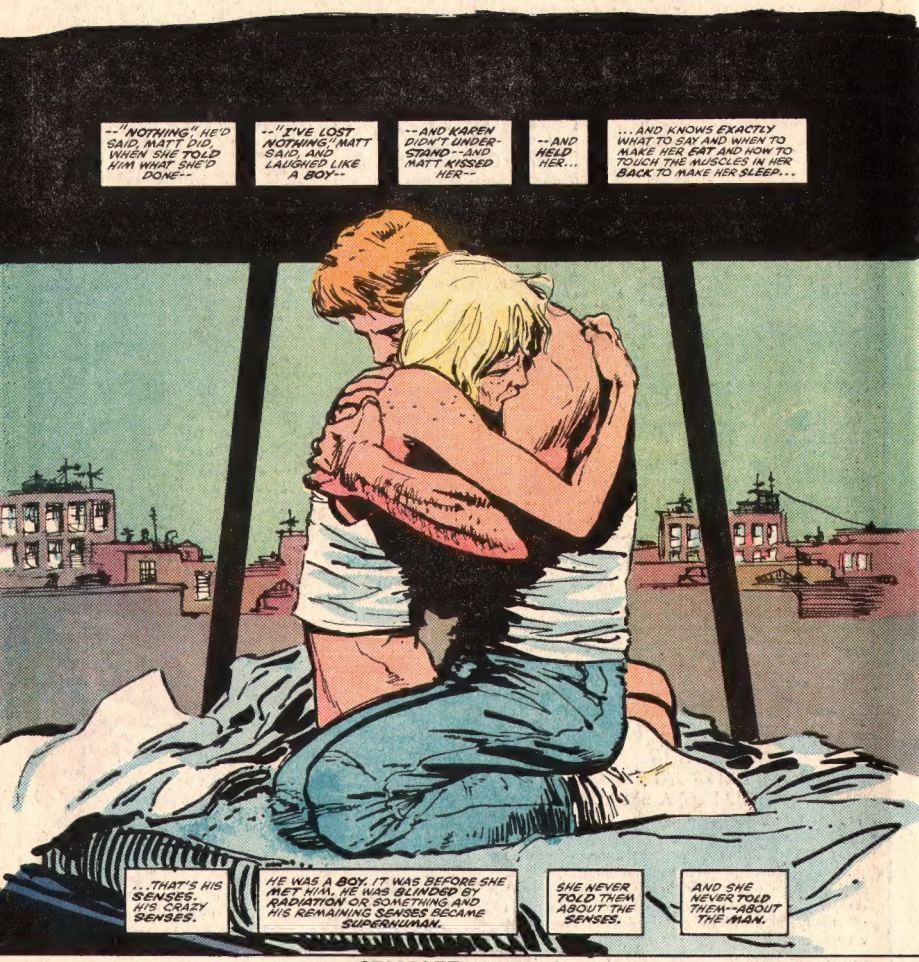

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From the length of my ENTOURAGE, you'd think I'm a visiting DIGNITARY--or a CROOK.
I'm NEITHER. My name is BEN URICH. I'm a REPORTER.
These days, I'm a reporter in the HOT SEAT--investigating the city's top CRIMINAL--the KINGPIN--and trying to stay ALIVE all the while.
Staying ALIVE involves finding the Kingpin's ENEMY--and my FRIEND. A man named MATT MURDOCK who has a lot of SECRETS and seems to have grown MORE.
Like where he IS.
YOU'VE BEEN CLOSE TO MURDOCK SINCE COLLEGE, HAVEN'T YOU, MR. NELSON?
CLOSE AS ANYBODY, I GUESS.
LOOK, I'LL ONLY TALK IF IT'S GOING TO HELP MATT, MR. URICH, I MEAN, SUPPOSE HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE FOUND...
YOU THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA FOR A BLIND MAN TO WANDER OFF ALONE?
NO, BUT...
But MATT is no ORDINARY blind man, I know that, NELSON. Do YOU?
...OKAY, MR. URICH. I'LL TRUST YOU. MATT ALWAYS SPOKE WELL OF YOU AND THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
ALL OF THOSE CHARGES AGAINST HIM ARE FALSE--AND YOU CAN BET I'LL HAVE HIS APPEAL READY, JUST AS SOON AS THIS WHOLE MESS GETS UNTANGLED. BUT...WELL...
...WELL, EVER SINCE OUR LAW FIRM WENT UNDER--AND EVEN BEFORE--MATT'S BEEN...

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...WELL, I SPOKE WITH HIM--I MEAN, HE PHONED ME, AFTER HIS HOUSE BLEW UP, AND... HE SOUNDED VERY CONFUSED...
HE SOUNDED CRAZY, MR. NELSON. I'VE SPOKEN WITH HIM MYSELF.
I WOULDN'T GO SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT. MATT'S ALWAYS BEEN KIND OF HIGH STRUNG. I MEAN, YOU JUST CAN'T ALWAYS WORRY...
...I'M SURE HE'LL BE ...LOOK, LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT I'VE GOT WORKED UP FOR THE APPEAL.
OF COURSE, THERE'S STILL A LOT OF EVIDENCE TO-- WHOOPS--
DARN IT-- I'M SUCH A--
WHERE DID YOU GET THESE PHOTOS?
GLORI... UM ...GLORIANNA O'BREEN... SHE'S--
MATT'S GIRLFRIEND? HE NEVER TOLD ME. BUT THEN, HE WOULDN'T KNOW...
WILL YOU BE SEEING HER ANY TIME SOON?
YEAH. YEAH, I... UM... I'LL BE SEEING HER TONIGHT...
ASK HER TO CALL ME. PLEASE.

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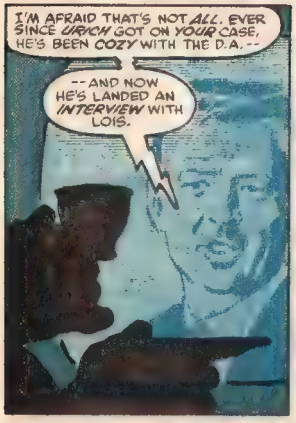
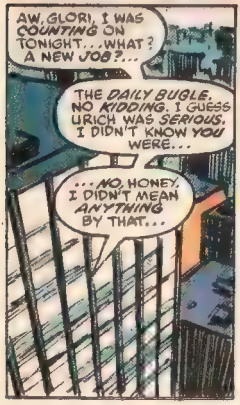
IT'S NOT LIKE SHE'S SOME FINE ART GALLERY FLIRT LOOKING TO COURT THE WINE AND CHEESE CROWD AND TALK ABOUT HER CHILDHOOD AS IF IT WERE WORTH THE TELLING.
SHE'S JUST GOT EYES, IS ALL, AND THINGS KEEP LEAPING OUT AT HER.
LIKE THAT MAN THERE SO BIG AND TOUGH AND JUST THE SAME HOLDING ONTO THAT JACKHAMMER FOR DEAR LIFE--
--JUST LEAPED OUT AND BEGGED TO BE TAKEN.
IT'S ALMOST ROBBERY, THINKS GLORIANNA O'BREEN.
GIVE ME A BLUE.
UM... EXCUSE ME, SIR--ABOUT THAT BEER YOU ORDERED--
--WE DON'T HAVE THE BRAND YOU ASKED FOR-- IT ISN'T MADE ANYMORE-- SO WE SUBSTITUTED--
AAAA--
THIS BRAND-- WHERE WAS IT BREWED?
M--MILWAUKEE.
DON'T WORRY, BOY, IT'S AMERICAN.
ALL RIGHT. ALL RIGHT.

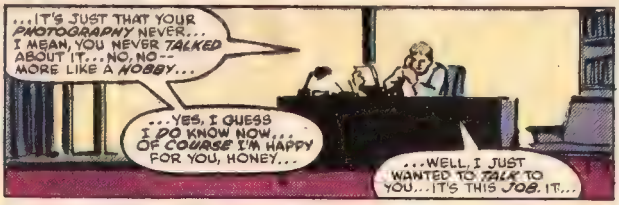
TROUBLE, MR. FISK. IT'S YOUR GIRL LOIS.
SINCE SHE WAS APPREHENDED TRYING TO MURDER BEN URICH'S WIFE--SHE'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT YOU.
THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY HAS AGREED TO REDUCED CHARGES IN EXCHANGE FOR HER TURNING STATE'S EVIDENCE.


I'M AFRAID THAT'S NOT ALL. EVER SINCE URICH GOT ON YOUR CASE, HE'S BEEN COZY WITH THE D.A.--
--AND NOW HE'S LANDED AN INTERVIEW WITH LOIS.

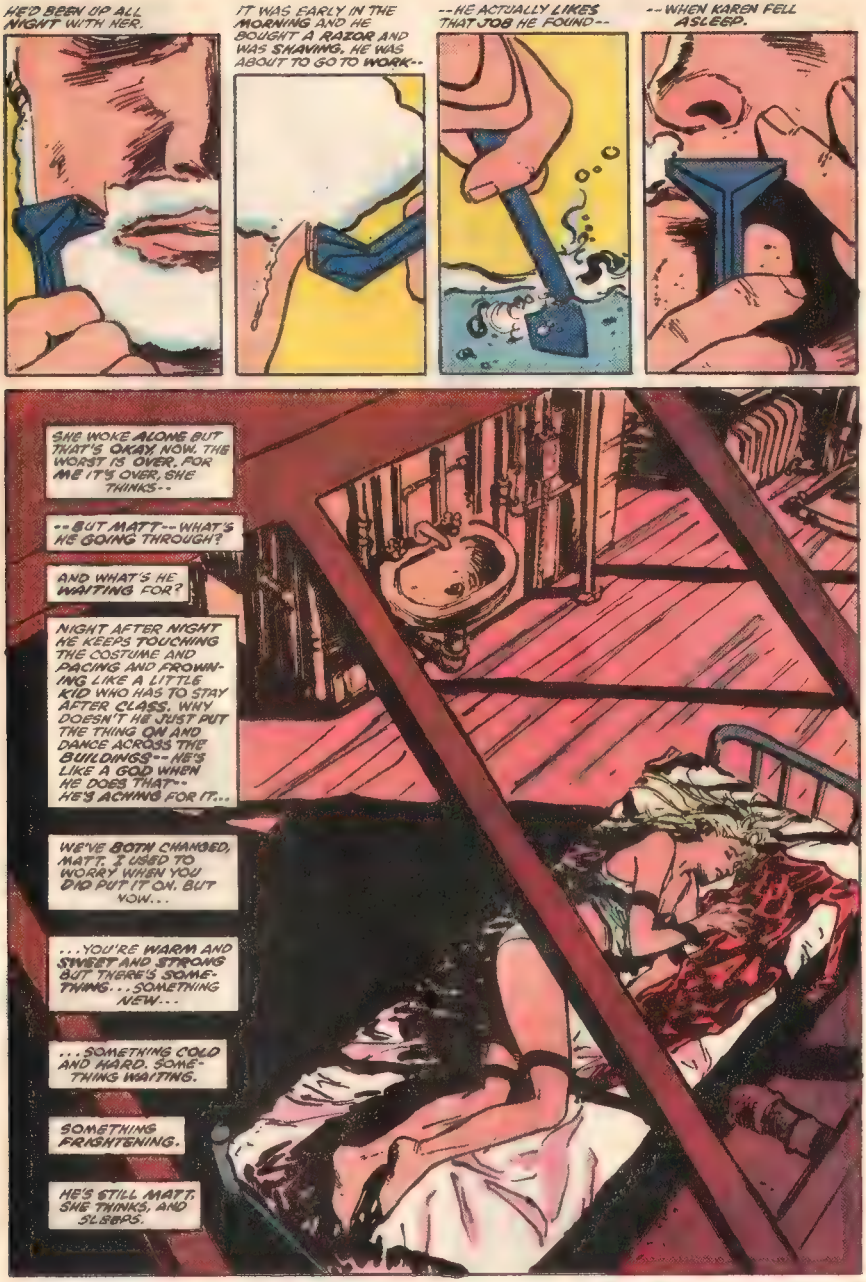
COMMISSIONER...YOU WILL SEE TO IT THAT OFFICER COOGAN IS ON DUTY AT THE TIME OF THE INTERVIEW.
THAT IS ALL.
MR. FISK--ABOUT THOSE PICTURES...

EMBARRASSING, AREN'T THEY, COMMISSIONER? SUCH AN ORDINARY COCKTAIL WAITRESS. YOUR WIFE WOULD BE INSULTED.
YOU NEED NOT WORRY, MY FRIEND. I WILL KEEP THE PHOTOS SAFE.
QUITE SAFE.


AW, GLORI, I WAS COUNTING ON TONIGHT...WHAT? A NEW JOB?...
THE DAILY BUGLE. NO KIDDING. I GUESS URICH WAS SERIOUS, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE...
...NO, HONEY, I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY THAT...


...IT'S JUST THAT YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY NEVER... I MEAN, YOU NEVER TALKED ABOUT IT...NO, NO--MORE LIKE A HOBBY...
...YES, I GUESS I DO KNOW NOW... OF COURSE I'M HAPPY FOR YOU, HONEY...
...WELL, I JUST WANTED TO TALK TO YOU...IT'S THIS JOB. IT...

...OH, FOR CORPORATE WORK, IT'S OKAY...AND THE PAY IS GREAT... BUT...
...BUT SOME OF THE WORK THEY DO HERE...I'M NOT SURE IT'S LEGITIMATE...


HE'D BEEN UP ALL NIGHT WITH HER.
IT WAS EARLY IN THE MORNING AND HE BOUGHT A RAZOR AND WAS SHAVING. HE WAS ABOUT TO GO TO WORK--
--HE ACTUALLY LIKES THAT JOB HE FOUND--
--WHEN KAREN FELL ASLEEP.
SHE WOKE ALONE BUT THAT'S OKAY NOW. THE WORST IS OVER. FOR ME IT'S OVER, SHE THINKS--
--BUT MATT--WHAT'S HE GOING THROUGH?
AND WHAT'S HE WAITING FOR?
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT HE KEEPS TOUCHING THE COSTUME AND PACING AND FROWNING LIKE A LITTLE KID WHO HAS TO STAY AFTER CLASS. WHY DOESN'T HE JUST PUT THE THING ON AND DANCE ACROSS THE BUILDINGS?--HE'S LIKE A GOD WHEN HE DOES THAT--HE'S ACHING FOR IT...
WE'VE BOTH CHANGED, MATT. I USED TO WORRY WHEN YOU DID PUT IT ON. BUT NOW...
...YOU'RE WARM AND SWEET AND STRONG BUT THERE'S SOMETHING...SOMETHING NEW...
...SOMETHING COLD AND HARD. SOMETHING WAITING.
SOMETHING FRIGHTENING.
HE'S STILL MATT, SHE THINKS, AND SLEEPS.

It's the city JAIL. They call it the TOMBS. They have their REASONS.
SAVE YOUR FILM, GLORI. LOCATION SHOTS YOU CAN SELL TO TOURISTS. GET THE PEOPLE -- AND GET THE ACTION. THAT'S WHAT STORIES ARE MADE OF.
YOU'VE EXPLAINED IT WELL ENOUGH, MR. URICH.
SHOULDN'T GET TESTY WITH URICH, GLOR-- JAMESON MADE HIM RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU. AND URICH, HE'S A REAL LONER. DOESN'T EVEN LIKE HAVING THE COP ALONG.
KLIK
DRIVES HIM CRAZY HAVING ME. BUT JAMESON SAID HE NEEDS AN ASSOCIATE AND I GOT JUST THE RIGHT FRIENDS.
SHUT UP, BLANDERS
I'M NO LONER, GLORI...
YOU'RE CLOSE TO LOSING THAT ARM.
BEN URICH. DAILY BUGLE.
HEGERFORS.
COOGAN.
KLIK
klak klik
URICH.
LOIS...
DON'T HAVE TO LOCK IT, COOGAN. THERE'S PLENTY OF US...
COOGAN -- WHAT ARE YOU--
WH--

BLAMM
KLIK
BLAMM
KBLAMM
BLAMM
KLIK
BLAMM
KLIK

KLIK
WHMPP
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
WHMPP

WHMPP
YOUR PREDECESSOR--THE FIRST SUPER SOLDIER--FACED SIMPLER TIMES THAN OURS, MY FRIEND... AND SIMPLER WARS. SO MUCH HAS CHANGED.
SO MUCH... WE WHO LOVE AMERICA ARE NOW SURROUNDED --BY LYING ASSASSINS AND SOFT-HEARTED FOOLS.
WE PATRIOTS-- THEY LAUGH AT US, MY SON...
...I AM SORRY YOU REMIND ME SO OF MY OWN SON--A FINE BOY HE IS, A VETERAN...
...I SHALL BE HONEST WITH YOU. THERE ARE MANY WHO OPPOSE ME.
I AM UNDER CONSTANT SCRUTINY BY THE POLICE. I AM, IN THE STRICTEST DEFINITION OF THE LAW, A CRIMINAL.
I KNOW THIS STARTLES YOU. BUT, AS I SAID-- SO MUCH HAS CHANGED. AMERICA'S ENEMIES HAVE GROWN SO STRONG THAT OUR BOYS DIE IN ASIAN JUNGLES--
--AND OUR PEOPLE WILL NOT HONOR THEM...

OUR BOYS...
...AND IT TORTURES ME THAT THE NOBLE CONCEPT OF FREE ENTERPRISE-- THE CROWNING TRIUMPH OF OUR FOREFATHERS-- HAS BEEN MURDERED BY ENDLESS, CORROSIVE LEGISLATION.
TO SIMPLY KEEP SOME SHADOW OF THAT DREAM ALIVE, I MUST... MUST BREAK THE LAW...
...EXCUSE ME... I...
STILL, WE ARE NOT ALONE, NUKE. THERE ARE OTHERS WHO BELIEVE-- ENOUGH, BARELY ENOUGH OF US, TO KEEP THE HOPE ALIVE.
WE WHO... DECIDE SUCH THINGS HAVE FORMED A PROUD TRINITY-- OF STATE-- AND MILITARY-- AND BUSINESS. WE MUST HAVE UNITY-- AGAINST THE MADNESS THAT SURROUNDS US-- AGAINST THE INFECTION OF THE AMERICAN SPIRIT.
THERE ARE THOSE WHO SAY THAT UNITY IS CONSPIRACY-- THAT AMERICA IS EVIL--
I KNOW WHAT THEY SAY. I KNOW WHAT THEY SAY.
--AND NOW A SINGLE MAN THREATENS TO DESTROY WHAT WE HAVE BUILT. HE MOVES AGAINST ME-- CALLS ME A VILLAIN.
I AM NOT A VILLAIN, MY SON. I AM A CORPORATION-- IN THE CONGLOMERATE THAT IS AMERICA. BUT HIS ALLIES IN THE PRESS--
THE PRESS...
WHERE IS HE?
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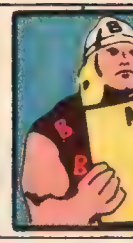

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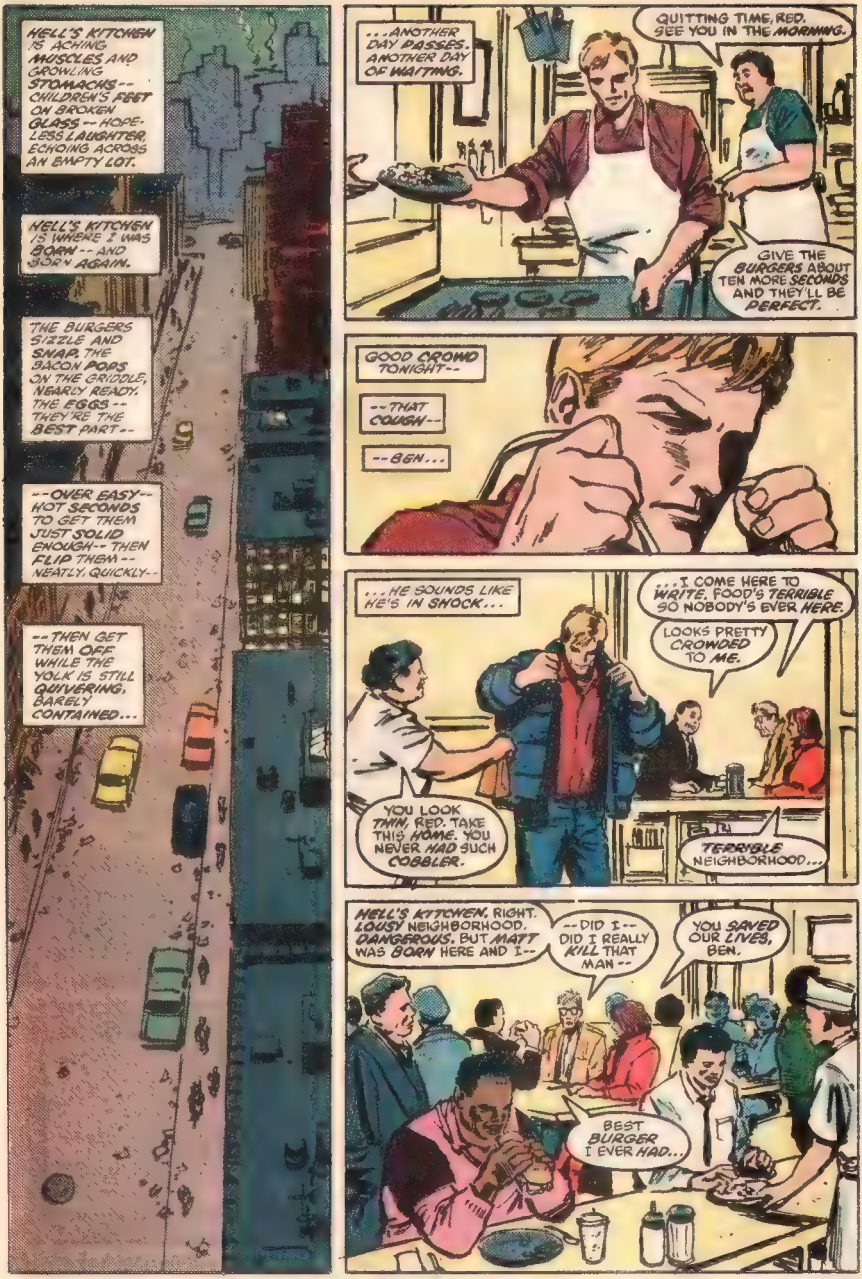
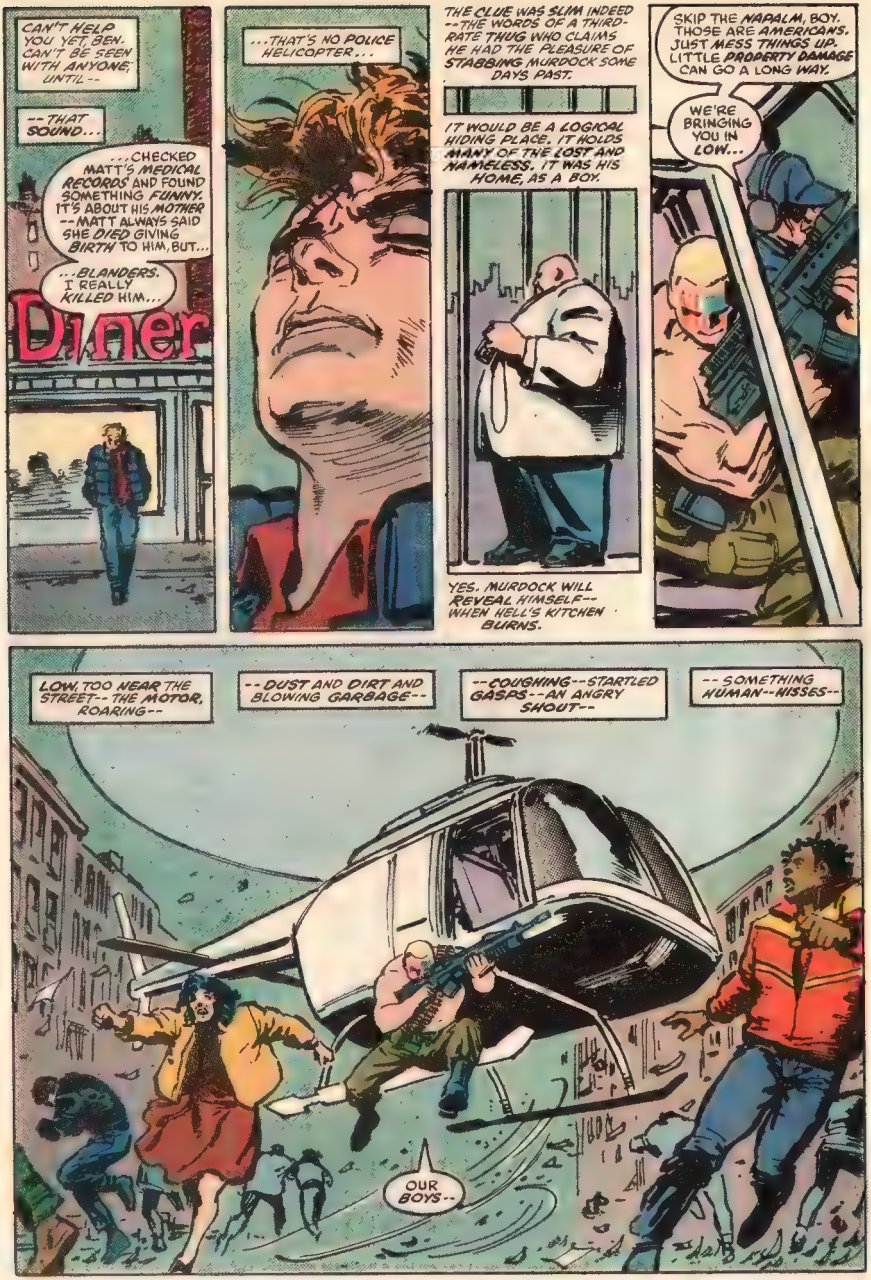

HELL'S KITCHEN IS ACHING MUSCLES AND GROWLING STOMACHS -- CHILDREN'S FEET ON BROKEN GLASS -- HOPELESS LAUGHTER, ECHOING ACROSS AN EMPTY LOT.
HELL'S KITCHEN IS WHERE I WAS BORN -- AND BORN AGAIN.
THE BURGERS SIZZLE AND SNAP. THE BACON POPS ON THE GRIDDLE, NEARLY READY. THE EGGS -- THEY'RE THE BEST PART --
--OVER EASY-- HOT SECONDS TO GET THEM JUST SOLID ENOUGH-- THEN FLIP THEM -- NEATLY, QUICKLY--
--THEN GET THEM OFF WHILE THE YOLK IS STILL QUIVERING, BARELY CONTAINED...
...ANOTHER DAY PASSES. ANOTHER DAY OF WAITING.
QUITTING TIME, RED. SEE YOU IN THE MORNING.
GIVE THE BURGERS ABOUT TEN MORE SECONDS AND THEY'LL BE PERFECT.
GOOD CROWD TONIGHT--
--THAT COUGH--
--BEN...
...HE SOUNDS LIKE HE'S IN SHOCK...
...I COME HERE TO WRITE. FOOD'S TERRIBLE SO NOBODY'S EVER HERE.
LOOKS PRETTY CROWDED TO ME.
YOU LOOK THIN, RED. TAKE THIS HOME. YOU NEVER HAD SUCH COBBLER.
TERRIBLE NEIGHBORHOOD...
HELL'S KITCHEN. RIGHT. LOUSY NEIGHBORHOOD. DANGEROUS. BUT MATT WAS BORN HERE AND I--
--DID I-- DID I REALLY KILL THAT MAN --
YOU SAVED OUR LIVES, BEN.
BEST BURGER I EVER HAD...

THE SAGA OF
THE HOBGOBLIN
EXPLODES
IN '86!
SPIDER
LOOK FOR THE
ACTION IN:
the AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN


CAN'T HELP YOU YET, BEN. CAN'T BE SEEN WITH ANYONE, UNTIL--
--THAT SOUND...
...CHECKED MATT'S MEDICAL RECORDS AND FOUND SOMETHING FUNNY. IT'S ABOUT HIS MOTHER --MATT ALWAYS SAID SHE DIED GIVING BIRTH TO HIM, BUT...
...BLANDERS. I REALLY KILLED HIM...
Diner
...THAT'S NO POLICE HELICOPTER...
THE CLUE WAS SLIM INDEED --THE WORDS OF A THIRD-RATE THUG WHO CLAIMS HE HAD THE PLEASURE OF STABBING MURDOCK SOME DAYS PAST.
IT WOULD BE A LOGICAL HIDING PLACE. IT HOLDS MANY OF THE LOST AND NAMELESS. IT WAS HIS HOME, AS A BOY.
YES. MURDOCK WILL REVEAL HIMSELF-- WHEN HELL'S KITCHEN BURNS.
SKIP THE NAPALM, BOY. THOSE ARE AMERICANS. JUST MESS THINGS UP. LITTLE PROPERTY DAMAGE CAN GO A LONG WAY.
WE'RE BRINGING YOU IN LOW...
LOW, TOO NEAR THE STREET-- THE MOTOR, ROARING--
--DUST AND DIRT AND BLOWING GARBAGE--
--COUGHING--STARTLED GASPS--AN ANGRY SHOUT--
--SOMETHING HUMAN--HISSES--
OUR BOYS--

BRAKA RAKABP IKKK
THREE--NO--IT'S FOUR BLOCKS AWAY--
--BULLETS CUT THROUGH FLESH AND BONE--
--A WOMAN HOLDS HER BABY CLOSE AND HEARS HIM GURGLE--
--A LUNG COLLAPSES--
--THREE BLOCKS NOW--A MAN CHOKES OUT HALF A NAME AND DIES--
PFAMM
--FROM THE GUN--A ROCKET--
WHOOM
--A WINO CRIES TO GOD--
GET YOUR CAMERA.
PFAMM

S·T·Y·L·E

DAKOTA NORTH
INVESTIGATIONS
NEW YORK · PARIS · ROME · TOKYO

BI-MONTHLY FROM MARVEL

--ANOTHER ROCKET-- HEADED FOR--
--KAREN...
WHOOM
MOVING UP, BOY-- GOT COMPANY--
ONE MORE--
PFAMM
MATT-- AM I DYING?
NO. NO, HONEY.
EVERYTHING IMPORTANT IN YOU--IS SAFE.
SAFE. I KEPT IT SAFE FOR YOU, MATT.
I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO BE A LOT MORE PATIENT THAN THIS, KINGPIN.
I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO WAIT FOR WEEKS--
--FOR YOU TO GET SLOPPY-- LIKE YOU DID WITH MY HOUSE.

BULLPEN BULLETINS

THE BULLPEN CHRISTMAS PARTY...

. . . was great. Live music by the **K-Otics**. A couple of Sushi chefs. Salads, hors d'oeuvres, snacks and pastries. A couple of tons of Chinese food. Oceans of drinks. Dancing. Presents.

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD . . .

Santa's largest elf delivered some funny stuff:

—For tough-guy Executive Editor *Tom DeFalco*, a **doormat**, since he doesn't have an assistant. Also, a **baseball bat** and a (stuffed) **baby seal** so he can have some fun.

—For X-Men writer *Chris Claremont*, a **scale model** of tough-gal X-Men Editor *Ann Nocenti* wearing a **Black Queen costume**.

—For superstar artist *Bill Sienkiewicz*, who always looks so tan and healthy, an **artificial palm tree** to go with his sun lamp.

—For Editor *Bob Budiansky*, who recently moved to New Jersey, a **gas mask**.

—For our brand-new Production Manager, *Anita Duncan*, **spurs** and a **riding crop**.

—For visiting *Ana Loos*, Editorial Director of *Junior Press*, which publishes Marvel Comics in Holland, a souvenir **tee shirt** bearing the legend "I ♥ **New Amsterdam**".

—For Senior Editor *Larry Hama*, who scripts (and created) *G.I. JOE*, a huge **American Flag**.

—For a renowned *tightwad* who shall remain nameless, a pair of **Visegrip pliers** with a **penny** clenched in the teeth.

Everybody got something funny (and something nice).

For the elf himself there was an **evening out kit** (a pair of theater tickets, money enough for dinner for two, and four subway tokens). Also a cashmere scarf, two jars of hot peppers (yum) and a host of other nifties, too many to list.

Fantastic.

After the **K-Otics** (*Gary Hallgren, Nelson Yomtov, Jim Olbrys, Mark Bright, Brick Mason, Larry Hama*) finished up, some of the party guests jammed. At one point we had *Jim Owsley* on drums, *Barry Windsor-Smith* on guitar, *Mark Bright* on bass and *Nelson Yomtov* on harmonica. *Adam Blaustein, Don Daley,* and *Marcella Cherry* also chipped in.

My assistant *Lynn Cohen* organized it all. She gives good party.

And we know how.

MEANWHILE . . .

Questions flood in regarding the **New Universe**. Be patient. You'll hear more about it soon. Next month. Till then, don't let the turkeys get you down.

Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

CHECKLIST

- ☐ **DAKOTA NORTH #1**—If you want exciting detective action and offbeat adventure yarns, you've come to the right place! MARTHA THOMASES (writer) and TONY SALMONS (artist) promise you a wild time!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #231**—It's Matt Murdock vs. . . . Daredevil!?
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #40**—Guest starring the Avengers!
- ☐ **SQUADRON SUPREME (Limited Series) #10**
- ☐ **THING #36**—With She-Hulk and the *New* Ms. Marvel!
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #15**
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS #9**
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #35**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #277**—Featuring a special bonus story by CHARLES VESS!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #318**—Beware the Scourge!
- ☐ **DOCTOR STRANGE #77**—Oh no! What's happened to the Cloak of Levitation?
- ☐ **FIRESTAR (Limited Series) #4**
- ☐ **POWER PACK #23**—Guest starring the Fantastic Four!
- ☐ **VISION AND SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #9**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR INDEX #7**—Catch up on issues #107–125!
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #7**—Introducing everyone from Kraven the Hunter to Man-Thing!
- ☐ **AVENGERS #268**
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #183**
- ☐ **ETERNALS (Limited Series) #9**—Welcome new writer WALTER SIMONSON!
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #48**—Introducing Sgt. Slaughter!
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #320**—Face-to-face with AL MILGROM! Will the Hulk ever be the same again!
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #188**
- ☐ **X-MEN #206**—Look out! It's the *new* Spider-Woman!
- ☐ **MARVEL SAGA #7**—Featuring the first appearance of J. Jonah Jameson, and lots more!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #291**—With Nick Fury!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #207**
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #115**
- ☐ **THOR #368**
- ☐ **TRANSFORMERS #17**—Meet the *new* Transformers!
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #5**
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO #21**

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #39**—First look at "The Misfits!"
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #124**

EPIC COMICS

- ☐ **MOONSHADOW #7**
- ☐ **DREADSTAR #24**—Willow is stranded!
- ☐ **ALIEN LEGION #13**—Torie puts the Squad in danger!
- ☐ **ELFQUEST #11**—Introducing Two-Edge the Troll!
- ☐ **GROO THE WANDERER #16**

STAR COMICS

- ☐ **FRAGGLE ROCK #7**—Meet the Gorg's best friend!
- ☐ **MISTY (Limited Series) #4**—Featuring *three* stories!
- ☐ **THUNDERCATS #4**—Introducing a *new* Thundercat, Lynxana!
- ☐ **HEATHCLIFF #8**—How did Heathcliff shrink so small?
- ☐ **TOP DOG #8**—Top Dog loses his memory and forgets he can talk!
- ☐ **DROIDS #2**—R2D2 and C3-PO become "The Ultimate Weapon," thanks to DAVE MANAK (writer) and JOHN ROMITA, SR. and AL WILLIAMSON (artists)!

KPWEE KPWEEE KPWEE
ENEMY FIRE.
A CHOPPER.
PFAMM
THE PILOT SCREAMS AN ALERT--THE GUNNER GOES TO HIS DEATH WITH A CURSE--
--TWO LOVERS SLEEP QUIETLY--
--THE SCREAMING STARTS.
FROM EVERYWHERE.
HE PASSES CLOSE--
THWAKK
SPAKK
FAPP
GIVE ME A RED.

NEXT: ARMAGEDDON

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: editor — CRAIG ANDERSON: assistant editor

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP-387 Park Avenue South-New York, New York-10016

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear sirs,

Re: DAREDEVIL #227

Little by little.

Piece by piece.

The hero's world chips inexorably away and we, the readers, witness it. We're a little bit astonished, more than a little enthralled. We carefully peruse and absorb every word, marveling over every subtle nuance. "What is going on?" we ask ourselves faintly, a bit hopefully, but deep inside we already know the answer.

Our once beloved Karen, reduced to a pathetic, drug-riddled shell of her former self?

The once straight-laced and noble Nick reduced to a whimpering, lying puppet?

Matt Murdock, our hero, cast out of his chosen profession? Cheated out of his hard-earned money? Bombed out of the security of his home? Forced out of his lover's heart and affections?

We ask again what is going on? By this time, though, we know the answer.

We should pity the terrible Kingpin. He has torn Daredevil's world down. In so doing, though, he has created a blood enemy the likes of which even he has never seen before.

We nod gratefully, expectantly; for in thirty long days the drama will continue. We will be waiting.

We know what's going on.

Miller is back!

Michael K. Willis
San Diego, CA

You said it, Michael!

Frank,

DAREDEVIL #227—"Apocalypse"—Beautiful, made me cry.

David Croghan
Bronx, NY 10468

Dear Frank and Dave,

I walked into my local comic book store intent on getting my week's worth of comics when I spotted DAREDEVIL #227 on the counter. The cover emitted a Frank Miller-esque style which was a pleasure for my eyes to behold. The guy who runs the shop told me that he held it for me because it was the last copy and he knew that I'd want it. What luck! Sure enough, I turned 'a few pages and saw that it said "By Frank Miller and David Mazzucchelli." I had never been so excited in my life! After another brief taste of Miller in DAREDEVIL #219, I thought that he may never come back. I am glad that I was wrong. Frank Miller is back and better than ever! The storyline was great. The framing of Matt Murdock, was perfect. DAREDEVIL has been my favorite comic since DAREDEVIL #158 when Frank started on it.

I really like knowing the fact that even though the Kingpin is really powerful, he doesn't know everything. For example, the Kingpin states that Matt Murdock is actually pretending that he is blind, since it is "obvious" that Daredevil is not blind! This shows that the Kingpin does not know that Daredevil is really blind! I love it! When the chips are down, there is still one thing that Daredevil can catch the enemy with. This also shows that even though the Kingpin is powerful, he is not omniscient!

I am now leaving to camp in front of the comic book store to attack the man who is bringing the next issue of DAREDEVIL! It ought to be a classic. Keep up the good work, guys!

Dan Israel
Petaluma, CA

Dear Sirs,

Right from the first page of DAREDEVIL #227, I had a hunch that this issue was special. The rest of the issue lived up to the challenge. This was, quite simply, one of the most exciting, eventful, surprising stories that it has ever been my pleasure to read.

One thing that instantly struck me was the Kingpin's incredible patience and thoroughness. Judging from the timetable presented in this issue, it took four months for the Kingpin to set the trap, then another for the effects to reach Matt Murdock, all coinciding brilliantly. The timing was exquisite. When a man, any man, goes about destroying his most hated enemy, it requires incredible restraint not to attempt to rush things, thereby exposing the plan to the haste that causes mistakes or gives everything away. The planning must have taken huge amounts of time, work, and cash in such volume that even the Kingpin would have hesitated if he had been aiming at any person but Daredevil.

The implications of this issue are staggering for every facet of Matt Murdock's life, and the lives of all of those near him. How will he live for the next several months? What will he do for work now that his law practice has been destroyed? Where will he live? Will the destruction of his building be blamed on him? What will he do about the Kingpin? I figure that he will severely retaliate!

All of these items seem to lead to a magnificent series in the issues to come. This series will probably be at least as good as the "Death of Elektra" saga. Considering the magnificent combined talents of Frank Miller and David Mazzucchelli, I'm sure that it will live up to and most probably surpass everyone's greatest expectations, and will probably introduce some more unexpected twists that will have more impact on Daredevil's life.

Congratulations, gentlemen, you have again done a beautiful job.

Robert Coleman
Regina, Saskatchewan
Canada

Well, as you know by now, Robert, things didn't go exactly the way the Kingpin had planned them to. He seemed to underestimate Daredevil's incredible endurance. This, as you see, creates a problem that not even the Kingpin anticipated! A very angry and very alive Daredevil

Read on . .

Dear Ralph,

I'm absolutely stunned!! I have just finished reading DAREDEVIL #227. I have just seen my favorite hero's life destroyed, his career and name dragged through the gutter. He does, indeed, become a ghost of a man. I hated it! I loved it!!

DAREDEVIL #227 was a masterpiece. I have read this comic since DAREDEVIL #165, and, no offense to Mr. O'Neil (who has written many great DAREDEVIL stories over the last couple of years), Mr. Miller is the definitive DAREDEVIL writer.

This tale was brilliant from the title to the various character's thoughts (I especially liked those of Ben Urich, who we see all too infrequently), to the beautiful passages throughout. Coupled with the artistic talent of David Mazzucchelli, parts of the story seemed almost like a dream, or more accurately, a nightmare. Unfortunately, "Apocalypse" was neither a dream nor a nightmare, and its effects should be felt for a long time to come. I sincerely hope that Matt can find a way to resolve his problems.

This issue stunned me. Each page gripped me with a fear of what was to come next. Having your arch-foe discover your secret identity has been dreaded by every super hero from Iron Man to Spider-Man, but never with such earth-shaking ramifications.

This was truly the best story I have read in my life. I await the next issue with baited breath. I am also anxiously awaiting the release of the ELEKTRA GRAPHIC NOVEL. Will that be out soon? I am really interested in reading it.

Patrick Tohill
Cambridge, Ont
Canada

Thank you for your kind words, Patrick. In answer to your question, the finishing touches are being put on the ELEKTRA GRAPHIC NOVEL even as this letter column is being written! The book is written by none other than Frank Miller and the artwork is in the very talented hands of Bill Sienkiewicz. We expect the book to be great, and evidently we're not alone in our high expectations. Look for it this year in your local comic store because it's sure to be a collector's item!

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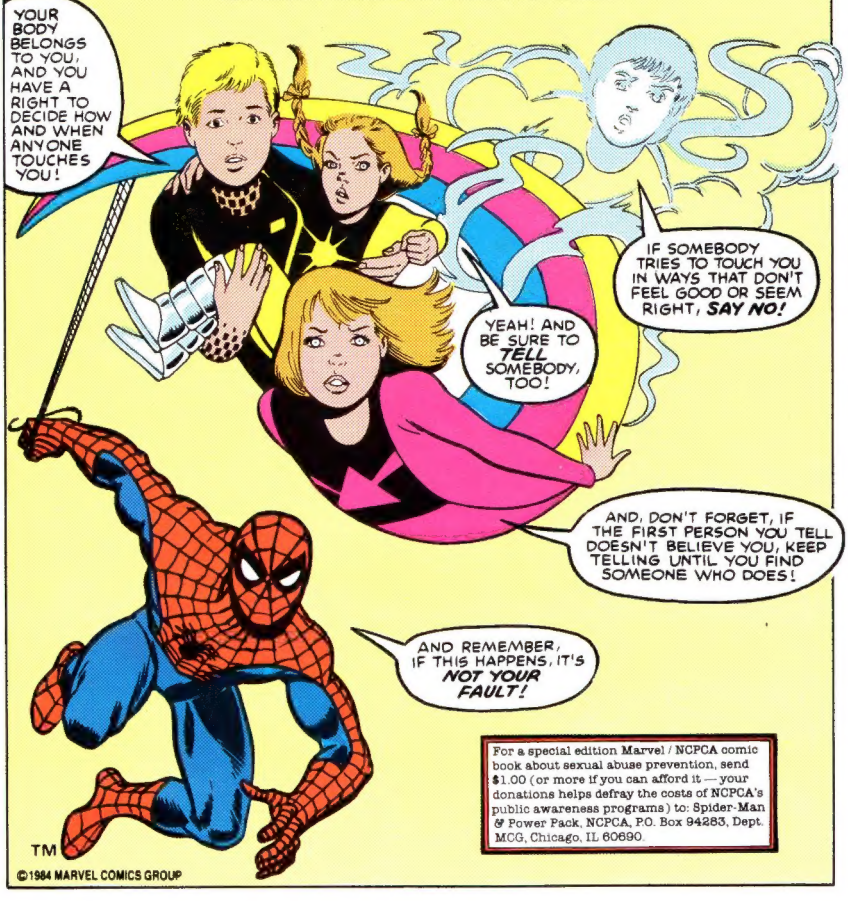

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